Conflict of Interest

Mr. Speaker: The House has heard the motion proposed by the hon. member under the terms of Standing Order 43. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimity. The motion cannot be put.

[Translation]

ENERGY

INCREASE IN PRICE OF FUEL OIL—SUGGESTED REFUND TO HOME OWNERS—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Jean-Marie Boisvert (Drummond): Mr. Speaker, under Standing Order 43. I ask the unanimous consent of the House to present an urgent and important motion.

In view of the too rapid increase in the price of heating oil which, by the way, is beneficial only to multinational companies and penalizes our distributors, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Charlevoix (Mr. Caouette):

That refund coupons, instead of ration coupons, be distributed to single homes owners to enable them to pay the increase in heating oil prices.

Mr. Speaker: The House has heard the motion of the hon. member. Under Standing Order 43, this motion requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is no unanimous consent. Therefore the motion of the hon. member cannot be put.

[English]

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

REFERENCE OF PAPER, "MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST", TO STANDING COMMITTEE ON PRIVILEGES AND ELECTIONS

On the order: Government Notices of Motions:

November 28—The President of the Privy Council—That the Green Paper entitled "Members of Parliament and Conflict of Interest", tabled July 17, 1973, be referred to the Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections.

Mr. Speaker: Pursuant to Section 2 of Standing Order 21, this government notice of motion stands transferred to and ordered for consideration under government orders at the next sitting of the House.

[Mr. Rowland.]

ORAL QUESTIONS

[English]

ENERGY

OIL—REQUEST THAT MINISTER HAVE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHECK FIGURES OF POSSIBLE SUPPLY CUTBACK IN CASE OF WORLD SHORTFALL

Hon. Alvin Hamilton (Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. In view of public statements made by representatives of three oil companies which serve on the minister's technical advisory committee, will the minister consider asking this committee to meet immediately so that he can at first hand check the figures on the amount of cutback of oil supplies Canada would have to endure if we have to share, as the minister says, in a general world shortfall, and will the minister then report back to the House?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): As the hon. gentleman says, the companies in question are all represented on the committee which is liaising with government, and the figures I cited earlier this week were the result of discussions between the government and company representatives. I will consider the suggestion to see whether it might be useful to call a fresh meeting at this time, but it does not appear to me that any new facts have been brought forward that would cause us to have any doubt about the figures I suggested in the committee, which, as the hon. member knows, reflect the kind of risk that might be anticipated if the worst came to pass this winter.

Mr. Hamilton (Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain): The minister's answer is the very reason I asked the question. I now have to ask the Prime Minister whether he is aware that, in light of public statements made by companies represented on the committee, which differ from what the minister is telling us, the credibility of the minister is at stake?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): According to my information, there is no discrepancy between the statements.

Some hon. Members: Oh!

Mr. Trudeau: If there is such a discrepancy I would be more inclined to think it was the credibility of the other parties rather than the minister's credibility which was at

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

SUGGESTED REPLACEMENT OF MINISTER—POSSIBILITY OF APPOINTMENT OF TEMPORARY RECEIVERS OF IMPORTED OIL SUPPLIES

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): Regretful as I am to differ from the right hon. gentleman-

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!